

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
RECREATION Permit Application

NOTE: *This Permit Application (and associated Instructions) are to propose activities to be conducted in the Midway Atoll Special Management Area of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The Co-Trustees are required to determine that issuing the requested permit is compatible with the findings of Presidential Proclamation 8031. Within this Application, provide all information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic and cultural resources of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument).*

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Any or all of the information within this application may be posted to the Monument website informing the public on projects proposed to occur in the Monument.
- In addition to the permit application, the Applicant must either download the Monument Compliance Information Sheet from the Monument website OR request a hard copy from the Monument Permit Coordinator (contact information below). The Monument Compliance Information Sheet must be submitted to the Monument Permit Coordinator after initial application consultation.
- Issuance of a Monument permit is dependent upon the completion and review of the application and Compliance Information Sheet.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

Send Permit Applications to:

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Coordinator

6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. # 300

Honolulu, HI 96825

nwhipermit@noaa.gov

PHONE: (808) 397-2660 FAX: (808) 397-2662

SUBMITTAL VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL IS PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED. FOR ADDITIONAL SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS, SEE THE LAST PAGE.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Application Cover Sheet

This Permit Application Cover Sheet is intended to provide summary information and status to the public on permit applications for activities proposed to be conducted in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. While a permit application has been received, it has not been fully reviewed nor approved by the Monument Management Board to date. The Monument permit process also ensures that all environmental reviews are conducted prior to the issuance of a Monument permit.

Summary Information

Applicant Name: Robert Webster

Affiliation: none

Permit Category: Recreation

Proposed Activity Dates: June 19, 2008 to July 31, 2008

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Primary method of entry will be on the vessel Minnow, US Coast Guard documentation number 1178126. Two or three people might arrive or depart on a charter flight.

Proposed Locations: Midway Atoll

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit: A maximum of 7, but most likely 3-5.

Estimated number of days in the Monument: We would like to stay a maximum of 7 days. Weather makes the arrival time uncertain, so we propose a period from June 19 to July 31. Most likely we will arrive in the third week of June.

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...
include activities such as wildlife viewing and photography, snorkeling, scuba diving, and viewing historical sites.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would
explore the atoll as allowed by the rules and guidelines. We would also offer volunteer services, if possible, for habitat restoration, wildlife monitoring, and/or historical site preservation.

c.) This activity would help the Monument by ...

increasing public awareness of the Monument and its natural and historical significance, and by contributing volunteer work.

Other information or background:

Section A - Applicant Information

1. Applicant

Name (last, first, middle initial): Webster, Robert E

Title:

1a. Intended field Principal Investigator (See instructions for more information):
(applicant will be present)

2. Mailing address (street/P.O. box, city, state, country, zip):

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

For students, major professor's name, telephone and email address:

3. Affiliation (institution/agency/organization directly related to the proposed project):
none

4. Additional persons to be covered by permit. List all personnel roles and names (if known at time of application) here (e.g. John Doe, Visitor):

Mike Webster, Visitor

Melinda Webster, Visitor

Zero to four other visitors to be named in the Compliance Logistics Information Sheet, for a maximum of seven people.

Section B: Project Information

5a. Project location(s):

☒ Midway Atoll

☒ Land-based

☒ **Ocean Based**

☒ Shallow water

☐ Deep water

NOTE: There is a fee schedule for people visiting Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge via vessel and aircraft.

Location Description:

The vessel will be tied to the dock or anchored in the harbor of Sand Island. Activities will take place in areas of Midway Atoll open to public access. Scuba diving will be done in the interior of the atoll, and possible on the outside wall if conditions permit. No activities will be required in areas closed to public access.

5b. Check all applicable regulated activities proposed to be conducted in the Monument:

☐ Drilling into, dredging, or otherwise altering the submerged lands other than by anchoring a vessel; or constructing, placing, or abandoning any structure, material, or other matter on the submerged lands

☒ Anchoring a vessel

☐ Deserting a vessel aground, at anchor, or adrift

☐ Discharging or depositing any material or matter into the Monument

☐ Touching coral, living or dead

☐ Attracting any living Monument resource

☒ Swimming, snorkeling, or closed or open circuit SCUBA diving within any Special Preservation Area or Midway Atoll Special Management Area

6 Purpose/Need/Scope *State purpose of proposed activities:*

Tourism -- to observe and photograph wildlife, the atoll, and historical sites.

7. Answer the Findings below by providing information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Monument:

The Findings are as follows:

a. How can the activity be conducted with adequate safeguards for the cultural, natural and historic resources and ecological integrity of the Monument?

Abiding by the Monument rules and regulations should provide adequate safeguards. We intend to follow the rules outlined in the orientation, and make the minimum impact on the atoll.

b. How will the activity be conducted in a manner compatible with the management direction of this proclamation, considering the extent to which the conduct of the activity may diminish or

enhance Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity, any indirect, secondary, or cumulative effects of the activity, and the duration of such effects? We will ensure that all persons abide by the rules of the Monument. The recreational activities we plan are observational in nature and will have a minimal impact on the resources of the Monument. We will especially take care not to disturb wildlife.

c. Is there a practicable alternative to conducting the activity within the Monument? If not, explain why your activities must be conducted in the Monument.
The purpose of our visit is to see Midway Atoll.

d. How does the end value of the activity outweigh its adverse impacts on Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity?
The adverse impacts will be minimal. The end value, although not huge, will be realized through some volunteer work and increased in public awareness of the Monument and its natural and historical resources.

e. Explain how the duration of the activity is no longer than necessary to achieve its stated purpose.
At least a week would be required to explore and learn about the various aspects of Midway Atoll.

f. Provide information demonstrating that you are qualified to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct.

Knowledge of the Monument's rules and restrictions will be acquired by all visitors, and the rules will be adhered to.

Boating experience is provided by three of the visitors who, among other experience, have made multiple transoceanic crossings in small vessels, and have boating experience in other marine reserves such as Dry Tortugas National Park and Glacier Bay National Park.

Applicant has Advanced PADI diving certification and experience leading dives in a wide variety of underwater environments, including environmentally sensitive sites. A maximum of four divers will be in the water at any given time. All divers will be certified and experienced, and safe diving practices will be followed. Coral and other marine life will not be touched or collected. No support or equipment will be required from the Monument for diving.

g. Provide information demonstrating that you have adequate financial resources available to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct. Adequate financial resources are provided by the owners of the vessel, who are also visitors in this application, to operate the vessel and complete the visit to Midway, and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct.

h. Explain how your methods and procedures are appropriate to achieve the proposed activity's goals in relation to their impacts to Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity.

The methods and procedures of the visit will essentially be those prescribed by the Visitor Services Plan and other rules for the Monument, and so should be appropriate for minimal impact on the cultural, natural, and historic resources.

i. Has your vessel has been outfitted with a mobile transceiver unit approved by OLE and complies with the requirements of Presidential Proclamation 8031?

Not yet, but a Faria WatchDog 750 will be installed and activated well before the inspections.

j. Demonstrate that there are no other factors that would make the issuance of a permit for the activity inappropriate.

There are no other factors that would make the issuance of a permit for the activities inappropriate.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS FOR PROPOSED RECREATION ACTIVITIES

k. Explain how the activity is for the purpose of recreation as defined: An activity conducted for personal enjoyment that does not result in the extraction of Monument resources and that does not involve a fee-for-service transaction.

This trip is for the personal enjoyment of the visitors. Nothing will be removed from the monument, and there is no fee-for-service involved with the visit.

8. Procedures/Methods:

We plan to (1) tie up at the dock, or (2) anchor or moor in the harbor and go to and from shore using a tender. Transportation on shore will be on foot or by rented bicycle, if available. It would be nice to view seabird colonies, but not enter nesting areas. Transportation to swimming, snorkeling, and dive sites can be by the vessel, tender, or shore access, subject to Monument regulations. Access to beaches would be nice, but is not required. There will be no archeological activities.

NOTE: If land or marine archeological activities are involved, contact the Monument Permit Coordinator at the address on the general application form before proceeding, as a customized application will be needed. For more information, contact the Monument office on the first page of this application.

9. List any other associated Monument permits:

none

10. List all specialized gear and materials to be used in this activity:

1. Personal digital cameras and video cameras
2. Snorkeling and scuba gear

11. List all Hazardous Materials you propose to take to and use within the Monument:

none

12. Describe any fixed installations and instrumentation proposed to be set in the Monument:

none

With knowledge of the penalties for false or incomplete statements, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1001, and for perjury, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1621, I hereby certify to the best of my abilities under penalty of perjury of that the information I have provided on this application form is true and correct. I agree that the Co-Trustees may post this application in its entirety on the Internet. I understand that the Co-Trustees will consider deleting all information that I have identified as “confidential” prior to posting the application.

Signature

Date

SEND ONE SIGNED APPLICATION VIA MAIL TO THE MONUMENT OFFICE BELOW:

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Coordinator
6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. # 300
Honolulu, HI 96825
FAX: (808) 397-2662

DID YOU INCLUDE THESE?

- ☒ Applicant CV/Resume/Biography
- ☐ Intended field Principal Investigator CV/Resume/Biography
- ☒ Electronic and Hard Copy of Application with Signature
- ☐ Statement of information you wish to be kept confidential
- ☐ Material Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Materials